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GEOGRAPHICAL RECORD

NORTH AMERICA

Controversies over the Rio Grande Waters. Water-Supply Paper 308, issued by the U. S. Geological Survey, contains records for 1911 of the discharge of the Rio Grande and its principal tributaries, together with that of Brazos River and Colorado River of Texas. The amount of water in the streams of the Rio Grande basin, which covers the greater part of New Mexico, large areas in southern Colorado, and a considerable territory in Texas and old Mexico, is of unusual importance to that region because it is for the most part an arid country, entirely dependent on its water supplies for irrigation. It is alleged that an unfair diversion of the water in both Colorado and New Mexico has resulted in the destruction of large agricultural values in Mexico. Certain issues have also arisen between the States of New Mexico and Colorado by reason of the allegation made by the people of New Mexico that a disproportionate part of the Rio Grande water originating in Colorado is diverted in that State to the detriment of interests in New Mexico. These international and interstate complications are now being investigated and the results of the streamflow measurements in this Geological Survey report constitute a part of the evidence that will be used in final decisions.

Life and Crop Zones in New Mexico. The Bureau of Biological Survey of the Department of Agriculture has issued "Life Zones and Crop Zones of New Mexico" (No. 35, North American Fauna) in which Mr. Vernon Bailey gives a survey of the biological investigations undertaken in that state. The transcontinental life zones are represented by six well-defined types: The Lower Sonoran, or the arid subdivision of the Lower Austral Zone, indicated by the mesquite and extending over the southern valleys of the Pecos, Rio Grande and Gila Rivers and the low plains of the southwestern corner of the state; the upper Sonoran corresponding to the upper Austral zone, represented by the nut pine and juniper and occurring in the plains and foothill country; Transition, the zone of yellow pine, covering the middle mountain slopes of the high ranges; the higher mountain slopes reveal the Canadian or the zone of spruce and fir; the Hudsonian or zone of dwarf spruces is found as a narrow belt of scrubby timberline trees around the high peaks; finally many of the summits of the Sangre de Cristo Range are capped by the treeless Arctic-Alpine Zone. A map in colors shows the distribution of these zones.

Map of the Niagara Gorge. A map of the Niagara river (1:12,000) from Lewiston to the mouth of the Welland River, has been issued by the U. S. Geological Survey to accompany the recently published Niagara folio. This map was surveyed in cooperation by the United States and Canadian Geological Surveys. It was compiled originally to accompany Guide Book No. 4, entitled "Excursions in Southwestern Ontario," prepared by the executive committee of the XIIth International Geological Congress.

Electric Storms in Western Kansas. The electric storms of western Kansas are distinct from thunderstorms, and from the magnetic disturbances during auroral displays, as stated by Mr. S. D. Flora. They occur at irregular intervals in practically all parts of Kansas west of the 101st meridian. In the northern counties they have been experienced as far east as the 99th meridian. During these "storms" metallic objects which are insulated from the earth are highly electrified. Barbed wire fences and stoves give severe shocks to anyone who touches them. The handles of cooking utensils not infrequently have to be covered with cloths to avoid the discomfort of the electric discharges. Cases are reported of herds of cattle having been seen at night time with "balls of fire as large as marbles" on their horns.

These electric storms are never associated with precipitation. The air is usually dry, and drying winds are common during their occurrence. The season of maximum frequency is late spring and early summer. Few, or none, are noted in winter. The high winds which accompany these storms are usually from the northwest, and the air is generally filled with dust. The storms occur in streaks, from a few feet to several miles in width, and seldom last more than a few hours. There have been cases when the electrical phenomena extended over several days, disappearing as the wind decreased in the night and reappearing with the increasing wind velocity of the next day. The general effect of these storms upon human beings is depressing, and there is a tendency to headache. Crops show similar effects to those of a killing frost, the foliage rolling up and dropping off. These effects, may, however, very likely be due to the dry hot winds, and not to the electrical disturbances. (*Monthly Weather Rev.*, Vol. 40, 1912, No. 6.) R. DeC. Ward.

CENTRAL AMERICA AND WEST INDIES

Climatology of the Panama Canal Zone. A very complete discussion of the "Hydrology of the Panama Canal," by Caleb Mills Saville, M. Am. Soc. Civ. Eng., formerly Assistant Engineer of the Isthmian Canal Commission, is published in the *Proceedings of the American Society of Civil Engineers*, Vol. 39, No. 1, 1913, pp. 3-115. This paper may be considered as an extension of the records previously discussed by Mr. A. P. Davis and Gen. Henry L. Abbot, U. S. A. Full tabulations of the data under discussion, with many diagrams and maps, serve to make Mr. Saville's report of unusual interest and value. Those who are in search of information regarding the climatology and hydrology of the Canal Zone will here find abundant material. The paper will naturally appeal most to engineers, and the fact that it is published in an engineering journal will probably prevent many meteorologists from seeing it. It is, however, a monograph which is one of the more important American contributions to climatology of the last year or two.

R. DeC. Ward.

ASIA

Climatology of Japan. The difference between the climates of western and central Japan is so great that these districts are distinguished by the two names "shady side" and "sunny side" respectively. While western Japan is having a long and severe winter, the central provinces, bordering the Inland Sea, are having dry and comparatively mild weather. The two regions are separated by mountains, and the climatic controls in the two cases are distinct. While the winter climate of central and southern Japan depends on the southwest monsoons, that of the western coast is directly related to the barometrical conditions of northern China. When the records of the mean daily temperatures at Tientsin are compared with corresponding records taken at Hamada and Sakai, representing western Japan, the results show a striking similarity, especially as regards the observations taken at an interval of two days between the two areas. (*Journ. Met. Soc. Japan,* Vol. 31, No. 9, 1912.)

R. DeC. Ward.

Pilgrim Travel by Sea to Mecca. The Sanitary Administration of the Ottoman Empire has issued a statistical statement of the number of Mohammedan pilgrims who traveled to Mecca via ports on the Red Sea during the Mohammedan year 1330, which corresponds almost exactly to the calendar year 1912. These pilgrims do not include the thousands who travel to Medina and Mecca via the Hedjaz Railroad and other overland routes. The number of pilgrims arriving by sea was 83,995, of which 83,295 came to Jedda, 688 to Yambo, and 12 to El-Wedj. One hundred and ninety-eight vessels were engaged in carrying pilgrims, and of these 134 were under the British flag, 22 Russian, 13 Dutch, and 29 Ottoman.

The largest number of pilgrims came from the Far East, which includes India, the Malay Archipelago, Sumatra, Java, and Japan. Some 15,000 came from Bombay, 9,500 from Singapore, and 12,000 from Batavia. The Indian

Ocean, Gulf of Oman, and the Persian Gulf regions contributed 4,823 to the total, about 1,000 each being credited to the ports of Bassora, Bushire, and Bahrein. From the Arabian and African coasts of the Red Sea there were 22,108, chiefly from Suez (16,039) and Suakin (5,520). From cities or ports on the Mediterranean the number was 6,741, Constantinople furnishing 2,299, Smyrna 1,615, Beirut 1,165, and Tangier 740. Finally, the three Russian ports of Sebastopol (7,692), Odessa (2,761), and Novorossisk (20), make a total of 10,473.

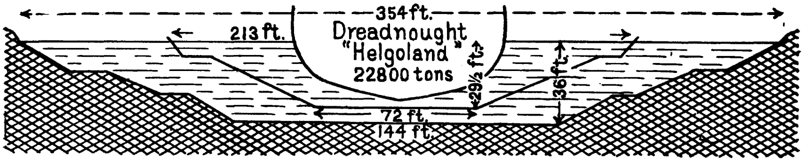
EUROPE

Widening the Kaiser Wilhelm Canal. In consequence of the rapid increase in traffic and in the tonnage of both merchant vessels and battleships it has become necessary to widen the Kaiser Wilhelm Canal, which connects the North Sea with the Baltic between the lower Elbe and Kiel Harbor. Opened to traffic in 1895 with a bottom width of 72 feet, a surface width of 213 feet and a depth of 29½ feet, after enlargement, which will be completed in 1915, the canal will be 144 feet wide at the bottom, 354 feet wide at the surface and 36 feet deep, as shown on the accompanying diagram. Traffic will not be interrupted by the change.

The table below shows that the enlarged Kaiser-Wilhelm Canal, although joining only two minor arms of the sea, may well bear comparison in size with such world-important arteries as the Suez and Panama Canals.

	SUEZ	PANAMA	KAISER WILHELM
Length	100 miles	50 miles	61 miles
Bottom width	126 ft.	300 ft. (min.)	144 ft.
Surface width	230 ft. (min.)	...	354 ft.
Depth	29½ ft. (min.)	51 ft. (min.)	36 ft.

The importance of the Kaiser Wilhelm Canal is shown by the fact that it is used annually by more than 40,000 vessels with a tonnage of more than 7,000,000 tons. As to the economy of time and distance in traffic between the Baltic and the North Sea a glance at the map will show. This shortening of distance to the Baltic is felt by all ports on the English North Sea coast south of Newcastle-on-Tyne. From Hamburg, the Baltic can be reached through the Canal in 25 instead of 80 hours *via* the Skager Rak. The avoidance of the latter route is advisable not only because of the longer distance it involves but also because of the frequency of its storms, which used to exact a toll of more than 100 vessels, many lives and millions of dollars worth of cargo annually.



Cross Section through the Kaiser Wilhelm Canal.
(From the *Geogr. Anzeiger*, Vol. 14, 1913, No. 4.)

The above is taken from a note in the *Geographischer Anzeiger* (Vol. 14, 1913, No. 4, p. 90) with the exception of the dimensions of the Suez and Panama Canals. These, particularly those of the Panama Canal, are greatly understated, the depth of the Panama Canal, for instance, being given as 29½ feet, whereas its minimum depth is actually 41 feet and its average depth 45 feet. The dimensions of the enlarged Kaiser Wilhelm Canal have not been subjected to a similar scrutiny. It is taken for granted, however, that they are correct.

POLAR

ARCTIC

Captain Koch's Expedition Across Greenland. The *Geographical Journal* (Vol. 42, 1913, No. 3, p. 299) reports that the Danish Expedition under Captain Koch which set out in June, 1912, to cross the inland ice of Greenland at about its widest part has accomplished its purpose in the face of considerable difficulties. It is reported from Copenhagen that the party reached the west coast at Pröven about 40 miles south of Upernivik, when just at the end of its resources. After being landed on the ice on the north-east coast on July 24, 1912, the party made an unsuccessful attempt to reach Queen Louise Land (due west of Cape Bismarck), and Captain Koch therefore decided to winter on the inland ice. During a sledge expedition to Queen Louise Land, at the end of October, the leader had the misfortune to break his leg through falling into a crevasse, and was laid up for three months. During the winter the temperature was generally 50° below the freezing-point (Centigrade?). Only in March could sledge work be resumed, and on April 20 the expedition started with five sledges and five horses (the rest had previously been slaughtered) to cross the ice to the west coast. During the first forty days the weather was extremely bad. On July 11 the last horse but one had to be killed, and on the next land was sighted. The food now gave out, and, the weather being extremely bad, the party remained for thirty-five hours without food under the shelter of a rock. Too exhausted to proceed, the explorers killed their dog, and were about to eat the flesh when they saw a boat on the fiord east of Pröven. By means of shots and signals they were able to attract the attention of those on board, among whom was the owner, Pastor Chemnitz, by whom they were taken to Pröven and hospitably entertained. Both Captain Koch and his companion Dr. Wegener are capable observers, and good scientific results may be expected. Koch's is the fourth crossing of Greenland, the others being those of Nansen, Peary, and De Quervain. It is probably the finest achievement of all, owing to the great width of the inland ice at this latitude. The highest point of the route is said to have been 9,000 feet above sea-level.

ANTARCTIC

British Expedition to King Edward VII Land. *The London Times* (Weekly Edition No. 1915, Sept. 12, 1913) announced that arrangements were being made for an expedition to King Edward VII Land to start in August next year. It will be under the command of J. Foster Stackhouse, who was closely associated with Captain Scott in organizing the voyage of the *Terra Nova.* It is expected that the expedition will sail from the Thames about Aug. 15, 1914, in the steam yacht *Polaris,* which was especially built for ice navigation in accordance with designs approved by an international committee of explorers including Charcot, de Gerlache, and Nansen. The *Polaris* was built at Sandefjord in Norway and her trial trips have been satisfactory. The expedition will be away for twenty months or more. It hopes to make a thorough study of the natural conditions and extent of this land.

METEOROLOGY AND CLIMATOLOGY

Volcanoes and Climate. The eruption of Mt. Katmai has given rise to several investigations of importance in connection with the effect of volcanic dust upon the absorption of solar radiation. Messrs Abbot and Fowle, of the Astrophysical Observatory of the Smithsonian Institution, have published certain conclusions regarding the possible effect of the dust from volcanic eruptions in the past upon climatic changes. Professor W. J. Humphreys, of the Weather Bureau, now presents a paper entitled "Volcanic Dust and Other Factors in the Production of Climatic Changes and their possible Relation to Ice Ages" (*Bull. Mt. Weather Observatory,* Vol. 6, Pt. I, 1913), in which he expresses similar views. The author shows that volcanic dust in the high atmosphere decreases the intensity of solar radiation in the lower atmosphere.

Therefore the average temperature of the earth is decreased. This effect has been clearly traced back to 1750, or to the time of the earliest reliable records. Hence volcanic dust must have been a factor, possibly a very important factor, in the production of many, perhaps all, past climatic changes. Thus another possible cause for past climatic "changes" is added to the already long list. It is a simple cause. It is apparently an effective cause. And, in the great confusion of many other possible causes which have been suggested, simplicity and effectiveness are merits which commend themselves to thinking people.

R. DeC. Ward.

ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL GEOGRAPHY

"Cartographic Documents of Economic Geography." The first number of a new quarterly bearing this title is published by Messrs. Kümmerly & Frey under the editorship of Professor C. Knapp of the University of Neuchatel and Dr. G. Michel of the Commercial School of Fribourg. Each number will consist of four or more maps, 14 x 13 inches in size, on which phases of modern industrial and commercial activity will be illustrated. An explanatory text will accompany each map. These sheets will form in time an authoritative atlas of Economic Geography. The annual subscription is 25 frs.; each number, 7.50 frs. The editors aim to offer their readers eventually an exhaustive survey of the natural resources of the earth. In order to impress each map with the stamp of expert information appeals have been made to specialists in various countries. No restrictions are placed regarding the limits of the regions to be described. Political or physical boundaries will circumscribe the data shown according to the requirements of each individual case. Contributions will be printed in French, German or English.

To judge by its first number the publication fills a decided want in the field of economic geography. The titles of the maps are: "Economic Map of Norway, 1913," "Geographical Distribution of the Wool Industry in Germany," "Viticulture in France" and "Railroad Traffic in Switzerland." This last map, the work of the two editors, gives much information regarding passenger and freight traffic by means of appropriate symbols. As the maps will not be bound in the quarterly, they may be classified to meet the convenience of the subscribers.

GENERAL

Memorial to Baron Toll. The *Geographical Journal* (September, 1913) says that a memorial to the lost Russian explorer, Baron E. von Toll, is to be set upon the west coast of Kotelnyi Island in the New Siberia group, the starting point of the explorer and his companions on their last journey into the unknown from which they never returned. Mr. Oskar Iden-Zeller, who was making preparations last spring for a northern expedition with dog sledges, was to take the tablet and affix it to a stone pillar on that island. The tablet shows the traveler's portrait in relief and also contains a suitable inscription.

The XIIth International Geological Congress. For the third time the International Geological Congress was held, in August last, in America. Following the sessions in Washington (1891) and in Mexico City (1906), Toronto was the place of meeting this year. About 700 members were present. The Congress was opened on August 7 in the Convocation hall of Toronto University. The first general meeting was given to a discussion of the world's resources of coal. The estimate of the committee on this topic is 7,397,533 million tons; 4,000,000 million bituminous; 3,000,000 million lignite and the remainder anthracite. The resources of some of the more important countries are estimated as follows in million tons: Canada, 1,234,269; United States, 3,214,174; United Kingdom, 189,535; France, 17,585; Germany, 85,551; Russia, 233,997. The northern hemisphere contains larger reserves than the southern. The choice of the mineral for the next systematic investigation was left to the Executive Committee of the next Congress, which will be held in Belgium in 1917.

In Professor De Margerie's address on the International Geological Map of the World he spoke of Ami Boué's map (Paris, 1845), of Marcou's Geological Map of the World in 8 sheets (1:23,000,000) lithographed in Zürich, of later maps and of the action taken by the Stockholm Congress in assigning the task of preparing the map to the "Commission de la carte Internationale Géologique de l'Europe." He described the various systems of projection best adapted for a geological map of the world on a scale suited for practical purposes. He called attention to the drawbacks of Mercator's projection and referred to the bathymetrical map published by the Cabinet Scientifique de S.A.S. le Prince de Monaco, in which Mercator's projection is used for low and middle latitudes, while the two polar caps are represented on the gnomonic projection, each pole being taken as an independent center of projection. In his opinion this device would also be inconvenient for the purpose of the map. The most practical method, in Professor De Margerie's opinion, is to have geological maps on a scale of 1:5,000,000 compiled separately for each continent, independent centers of projection being selected for each. This plan was suggested by the admirable results obtained in the compilation of the Geological Map of North America issued on the occasion of the Xth International Geological Congress[1] in 1906.

Apart from the fact that it is the land masses which constitute areas of geological interest, it may be well to observe that the reduction in the size of maps compiled in this manner affords notable advantages for purposes of handiness and of economical preparation. With an equatorial scale of 1:5,000,000 a map of the land areas of the world would comprise only 16 sheets, each 1 x 0.60 m. in size for the representation of continental masses as suggested by Professor De Margerie. Of this number Asia would require 6, Africa and South America 4 each, Australia 2.

The subject was discussed by the Committee of the International Geological Map of the World. A proposal for a 1:5,000,000 geological map of the world to consist of 80 sections, each 55 x 75 cm. in size was made. Provisional sheets of this map were submitted to and approved by the Committee which also recommended the adoption of Professor De Margerie's proposal.

Mr. Gentil, the well-known explorer of Morocco, representing the "Université de Paris," gave an instructive account of his investigations of that country. He illustrated his remarks by reference to the 1:2,500,000 map of Morocco which he has compiled in the past ten years. His investigation of northwestern Africa, begun in 1904, is a valuable contribution to the physical geography of the western section of the Mediterranean basin. He emphasized the fact that the High Atlas, with its altitudes attaining 4,200 m. and over, is the prolongation of the Saharan ranges and that its structure is that of the Jura mountains. It extends along the Atlantic coast, dives beneath the ocean to emerge again at the Canary Islands and finally in the West Indies. In this manner the prolongation of the Tertiary system of the Alps is formed.

Northwest of the High Atlas lies the Casablanca flatland, which Gentil has called the Moroccan meseta on account of its analogy with the Iberian meseta or central Spanish plateau. The northern section of Morocco is constituted by a coastal chain, known as the Rif, which lies between the straits of Gibraltar and Algeria. This chain was shown to be a continuation of the Betic Cordillera, which includes the Sierra Nevada.

A sketch of the two straits which preceded the Strait of Gibraltar was given next. The oldest is the north Betic Strait, which occupied the site of the Guadalquivir valley north of the Betic Cordillera. The closing of this passage was followed by the opening of a new strait connecting Algeria with the Atlantic Ocean *via* Taza and Fez. This is the one which Gentil has called the South Rifan strait and which gave way to that of Gibraltar. Attention was called in conclusion to Morocco's natural resources, especially with regard to the economic importance of its soils.

A popular lecture on the Egyptian desert was given by Dr. W. F. Hume. Fine forms of erosion due to eolian agencies and typical of desert conditions were shown on the screen.

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[1] This map was revised in 1911 and is now distributed by the U. S. Geological Survey with Professional Paper No. 71 (see review in *Bull.*, Vol. 44, 1912, pp. 40–44).

The organization of the Congress both as regards excursions and the work of the sessions was most creditable to the Canadian geologists. Planning for the 25,000 miles of excursion routes was no light task. The organized trips were carried out to everyone's satisfaction. Too much stress cannot be laid on the high usefulness of these excursions. An admirably compiled set of guide-books served to enhance the benefits derived from the trips. These publications contain much unpublished material on the geology and geography of the regions visited and form a valuable contribution to the year's scientific output.

Mr. Wheeler's Guide Book of the Selkirk Mountains. Mr. A. O. Wheeler, Director of the Alpine Club of Canada and joint author with Elizabeth Parker of ''The Selkirk Mountains. A Guide for Mountain Pilgrims and Climbers,'' wrote to the Society some time ago that in his opinion the review of his book by Mr. H. Palmer published in the *Bulletin,* Vol. 44, 1912, p. 694, tended ''unjustly to discredit the work.'' The reviewer's statements and Mr. Wheeler's comments are somewhat condensed here.

The reviewer: The two principal chapters are given to the Summit Range near Glacier, the Purcell Range and the country about the headwaters of the Columbia River. The latter being new is of especial value. Mr. Wheeler: These areas have been known, visited and written about for some years by Gleason, Dr. and Mrs. Adami, Messrs. Harnden and Emerson and many others.

(P. 85 of the guide-book.) The reviewer: Purity Pass is not connected with Purity Glacier nor is its altitude 9,200 feet, but 8,700 feet. Mr. Wheeler: The pass described in the guide-book is immediately east of the snowcone and the north aretê of Mt. Purity, and the glacier referred to lies directly below it to the north. It *is* 9,200 ft. at the summit of the pass and *is* connected with the glacier referred to as Purity Glacier (see topographical map in Wheeler's ''Selkirk Range'' published by the Dept. of the Interior of Canada, 1905). The Geographic Board of Canada informs me that the name Purity Glacier has been applied to that shown as Battle Glacier on the map referred to—that is to the one directly south of the pass described and connecting with it.

(P. 98.) The reviewer: Terminal Peak agrees in neither position nor altitude with the same as mapped. Mr. Wheeler: Terminal Peak *is* as shown on the map. It is directly south of the head of Sir Donald Glacier and its correct altitude is 9,773 feet as stated.

(P. 96.) Reviewer: Mt. Sugarloaf cannot be climbed as described under Route 2. Mr. Wheeler: On looking up the original manuscript I find an omission in transcription. The original reads: ''Route 2: Take the Asulkan trail and Pass, the Dawson Moraine, Donkin Glacier and Pass, camping the first night in Mitre Creek Valley; the second day cross the west end of Bishop's Range *and Purity Pass, descend Battle Glacier to a camp below the forefoot;* the third day ascend the mountains from the west.'' The words in italics were omitted.

(Pp. 30 and 94.) The reviewer: Mt. Sir Sandford was first attempted in 1907 not in 1908 and not by the party named. Mr. Wheeler: Mr. Palmer does not state by whom the first attempt was made. I have been unable to find any published record of an organized attempt on Mt. Sir Sandford in 1907 nor have I heard of any such. The attempt, if such were made, appears to have been unimportant as the peak was not reached by several miles.

(P. 10.) The reviewer: The Columbia River flows northerly from Columbia Lake for about 175 miles, not 300 miles. Mr. Wheeler: The text reads: ''Rising in Columbia Lake over 100 miles south of the railway, the river flows north *some* 300 miles.'' Captain F. P. Armstrong who has navigated the Columbia between its source and Golden for many years, sends me the distance from the source in Canal Flats to Golden as 132 miles. The length of the railway which follows the river more or less directly from Golden to Beavermouth according to the C.P.R. measurement is 28 miles. Mr. Turner Bone C. E. of Calgary who has made investigations for the Canadian Pacific Railway from Beavermouth to the Big Bend, sends me an estimate of the distance from Beavermouth to the Big Bend as 85 miles. The full distance therefore from the source of the Columbia to Big Bend, according to the latest technical evidence, is 245 miles. I think 10 per cent. may be added for sinuosities, making a total of 270 miles—an estimate considerably nearer 300 than 175 miles.

(P. 150.) The reviewer: The author will find few supporters for the statement that heat and cold, contraction and expansion cause large crevasses in glaciers. Mr. Wheeler: The text in the guide-book reads as follows: "Heat and cold, contraction and expansion *and the unevenness of the bed over which it moves downward,* cause large cracks to occur across the ice river." I believe that heat and cold have a great deal to do with the uncovering and covering of crevasses and also with their enlargement and diminution.

(Pp. 174, 176.) The reviewer: Porcupines, squirrels and eagles are common, pp. 174 and 176, to the contrary notwithstanding. Mr. Wheeler: I have referred this criticism to Prof. John Macoun, Dominion Naturalist, who is responsible for the statement in the Guide-book. He remarks that "the gentleman's information is inadequate. The red squirrel and the porcupine are comparatively rare in the Selkirks. The golden eagle is rare throughout the mountains and the bald-headed eagle, while common along great waterways such as the Columbia and Kootenay Rivers and lakes, is rare amid the Selkirk peaks where the streams are chiefly glacial torrents and fish are few."

Mr. Wheeler briefly refers to a few minor inaccuracies which Mr. Palmer noted and says in conclusion: "I am obliged to Mr. Palmer for calling my attention to errors where they exist. The book is a first issue of a guide-book covering a very large area of mountain country and the information is as correct as can be had with present knowledge. It needs no apology. Descriptions are given for more than 250 place names. Thirteen statements are challenged by Mr. Palmer, six of them incorrectly, the remaining discrepancies are trivial and evidently slips that had escaped notice in the proof-reading. They will be corrected in the next issue."

PERSONAL

Dr. L. A. Bauer, Director of the Department of Terrestrial Magnetism, Carnegie Institution, Washington, has received the Georg Neumayer gold medal. This is the first award of the medal since 1906. Dr. Bauer has also received the honorary degree of Doctor of Science from the University of Cincinnati.

Professor Isaiah Bowman of Yale University, who has recently returned from his latest explorations in South America, was elected a Corresponding Member of the Geographical Society of La Paz, Bolivia, on August 12, "in recognition of his special knowledge and geographical studies."

Mr. Frederick G. Clapp of Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, spent the summer in an automobile trip through parts of Transylvania and Hungary, where he studied the geology of the natural gas fields and of the salt deposits and the associated geographical features.

Instructor C. L. Dake of Williams College has been appointed Professor of Geology and Mineralogy in the Missouri School of Mines.

Prof. W. M. Davis has been elected Honorary Member of the Netherlands Geographical Society of Amsterdam.

Prof. Dr. Albert Heim of Zürich has been elected a Foreign Member of the Academy of Sciences, Washington.

Dr. Johan Hjort, the Norwegian oceanographer, has received the Agassiz medal of the Academy of Sciences, Washington.

Dr. Charles T. Kirk, recently of the U. S. Geological Survey, has been appointed Professor of Geology in the University of New Mexico.

Dr. Th. Koch-Grünberg, the explorer of the source streams of the Rio Negro, Brazil, has been appointed Associate Professor of Ethnology at the University of Freiburg.

Dr. Henry Fairfield Osborn, President of the American Museum of Natural History, visited in August the expeditions conducting paleontological explorations for the Museum in the West.

Prof. Dr. Eduard Suess, of the University of Vienna, has received the Gandry medal of the Geological Society of France.

OBITUARY

HERMANN CREDNER. Dr. Hermann Credner, Professor of Geology at Leipzig and Director of the Saxony Geological Survey, died in August at the age of 72 years.

JOHN MILNE. Professor John Milne, F.R.S., mining engineer and seismologist, died at his home in the Isle of Wight on July 31 at the age of 63. He was the author of standard works and papers on seismology, geology and mineralogy. For twenty years he was in the service of the Japanese government as geologist and mining engineer. He established the seismic survey of Japan, embracing 968 stations and later a seismic survey of the world for the British Association. Among his writings are "Earthquakes," 1883; "Seismology," 1898.

FREDERICK G. PLUMMER. Mr. Frederick G. Plummer, Geographer of the United States Forest Service, died on August 18, aged 69 years.

ARMINIUS VAMBÉRY. Professor Arminius Vambéry died in Budapest on September 14 in his eighty-second year. He was born of Jewish parents in the Hungarian town of Duna-Szerdahely. At sixteen years of age he was conversant with many of the principal languages of Europe and Asia. When he was twenty years old his great ambition was to visit parts of the Orient and follow up his linguistic studies there. Baron Joseph Eötvös helped him to go to Constantinople, where he eked out a living by teaching languages. During his six years there he published his Turkish-German dictionary and acquired some twenty Oriental languages and dialects. In spite of his scanty means he resolved to go to Khiva, Bokhara and Samarkand to pursue his linguistic researches. The Hungarian Academy of Sciences in 1861 voted him 1,000 florins to investigate the affinities of the Magyar tongue in the interior of Asia. In the disguise of a dervish he traveled to Persia and left Teheran in March, 1863, for Khiva, which he reached at the end of May after intense suffering from thirst in the desert. His disguise was never penetrated, he was treated with exceptional kindness by the Khan of Khiva, and after visiting Samarkand, Herat and Meshed he made his way back to Hungary. He had escaped the fate of Conolly, Stoddart, Moorcroft and others who had ventured into these inhospitable regions and were put to death.

Vambéry's book "Travels in Central Asia" was one of the most remarkable successes in geographical literature. In a few years it was translated into fourteen or more European and Oriental languages. He had much difficulty in writing it as his main reliance was his memory, for he had been able to take very few notes and these he had written on scraps of paper concealed in his clothing. He was appointed professor of Oriental languages in the University of Budapest, where he found the opportunity he desired for study and writing. He kept himself in constant touch with the East and was one of the leading authorities on the countries he had visited. He wrote some twenty books and among the latest of them were "Arminius Vambéry, his Life and Adventures" (London, 1883) and "Story of My Struggles," 2 vols., London, 1904.